Report under the Article 17 of the Habitats Directive Period 2007-2012

# **European Environment Agency** *European Topic Centre on Biological Diversity*



## Notothylas orbicularis

Annex II No

**Species group** Non-vascular plants **Regions** Alpine, Continental

Notothylas orbicularis occurs on soil in crop fields in lower altitudes. It is an annual species, with the population size differing from year to year. It is a rare Central European species of hornworts. It was reported from Germany, Austria and the Czech Republic, although it occurs as well in Italy. Both in Austria and in the Czech Republic the species is considered as Critically Endangered (CR) in their latest nation red lists.

The conservation status in the Alpine biogeographical regions is "Unfavourable Bad" and with unkown trend, like the last assessment. The range of the species has limited extent; population suffered decrease in last decades. According to Drehwald (2012) the status in the German Bundesland Hessen is today "Favourable". Even if the population in Hessen is "Favourable", the status in Austria and the Czech Republic is "Unknown" or "Bad" so the Overall assessment for the Continental region is "Unfavourable Inadequate", but with positive trend.

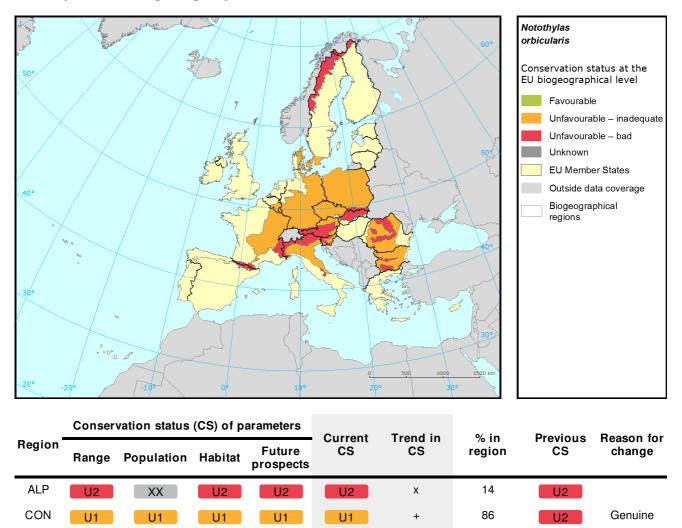
Threats to this species are intensive agriculture. It is restricted to fields with traditional agriculture, a practise which is on decline. These facts are reflected in the "Unfavourable Inadequate" evaluation of Future prospects and Habitat of species in the Continental biogeographical region.

The change in overall conservation status from "Unfavourable Bad" 2001-06 to "Unfavourable Inadequate" 2007-12 reports is due to a real change of conservation status in the Continental region. No changes in overall conservation status between 2001-06 and 2007-12 reports in Alpine region.

Better data is required from Austria and Czech Republic.

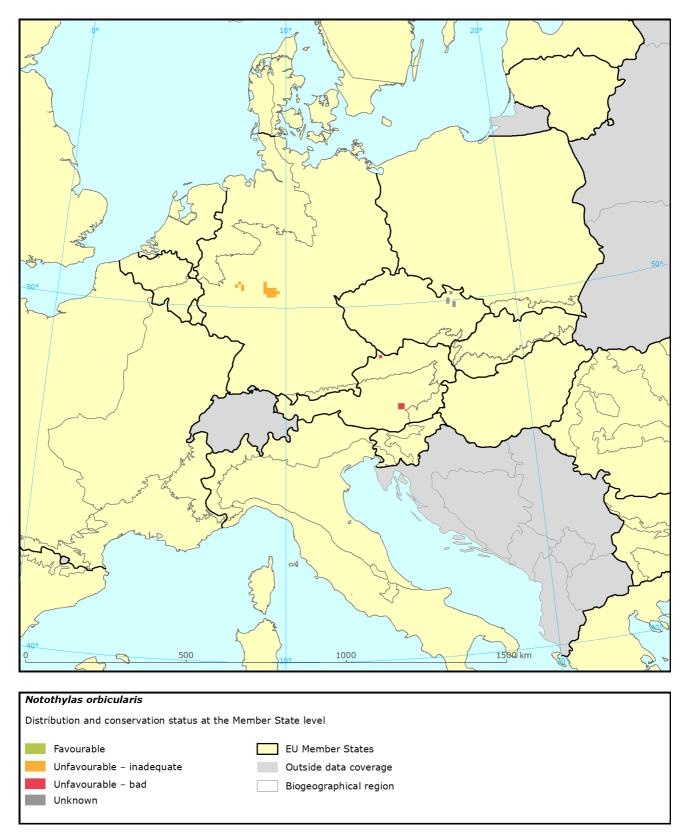
Report under the Article 17 of the Habitats Directive

## Assessment of conservation status at the European biogeographical level



See the endnote for more information<sup>i</sup>

### Assessment of conservation status at the Member State level



The map shows both Conservation Status and distribution using a  $10 \text{ km} \times 10 \text{ km}$  grid. Conservation status is assessed at biogeographical level. Therefore the representation in each grid cell is only illustrative.

Report under the Article 17 of the Habitats Directive

	Conservation status of parameters				Current	Trend in	% in	Previous	Reason
MS Region	Range	Population	Habitat	Future prospects	uture CS	CS	region	CS	for change
AT ALP	U2	XX	U2	U2	U2	Х	100.0	U2	
AT CON	U2	U2	U1	U2	U2	x	4.2	U2	
CZ CON	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX		20.8		
DE CON	FV	FV	U1	U1	U1	+	75.0	U2	Genuine

Knowing that not all changes in conservation status between the reporting periods were genuine, Member States were asked to give the reasons for changes in conservation status. Bulgaria and Romania only joined the EU in 2007 and Greece did not report for 2007-12 so no reason is given for change for these countries. Greek data shown above is from 2001-06.

## Main pressures and threats reported by Member States

Member States were asked to report the 20 most important threats and pressures using an agreed hierarchical list which can be found on the Article 17 Reference Portal. Pressures are activities which are currently having an impact on the species and threats are activities expected to have an impact in the near future. Pressures and threats were ranked in three classes 'high, medium and low importance'; the tables below only show threats and pressures classed as 'high', for some species there were less than ten threats or pressures reported as highly important.

#### Ten most frequently reported 'highly important' pressures

Code	Activity	Frequency
A02	Modification of cultivation practices	50
80A	Fertilisation in agriculture	25
A06	Crops of annuals & perennials (non-timber)	13
A07	Use of 'pesticides' in agriculture	13

#### Ten most frequently reported 'highly important' threats

Code	Activity	Frequency
A02	Modification of cultivation practices	50
A08	Fertilisation in agriculture	25
A06	Crops of annuals & perennials (non-timber)	13
A07	Use of 'pesticides' in agriculture	13

Report under the Article 17 of the Habitats Directive

## Proportion of population covered by the Natura 2000 network

For species listed in the Annex II of the Directive Member States were asked to report the population size within the Natura 2000 network. The percentage of species population covered by the network was estimated by comparing the population size within the network and the total population size in the biogeographical/marine region.

#### Percentage of coverage by Natura 2000 sites in biogeographical/marine region

	ALP	CON
AT	0	0
CZ		0
DE		19

See the endnotes for more information ii

## Most frequently reported conservation measures

For species listed in the Annex II of the Directive Member States were asked to report up to 20 conservation measures being implemented for this species using an agreed list which can be found on the Article 17 Reference Portal. Member States were further requested to highlight up to five most important ('highly important') measures; the table below only shows measures classed as 'high', for many species there were less than ten measures reported as highly important.

#### Ten most frequently reported 'highly important' conservation measures

Code	Measure	Frequency
2.2	Adapting crop production	100

This information is derived from the Member State national reports submitted to the European Commission under Article 17 of the Habitats Directive in 2013 and covering the period 2007-2012. More detailed information, including the MS reports, is available at: http://bd.eionet.europa.eu/article17/reports2012/species/summary/?group=Non-vascular+plants&period=3&subject=Notothylas+orbicularis

Report under the Article 17 of the Habitats Directive

Assessment of conservation status at the European biogeographical level: Current Conservation Status (Current CS) shows the status for the reporting period 2007-2012, Previous Conservation Status (Previous CS) for the reporting period 2000-2006. Reason for change in conservation status between the reporting periods indicates whether the changes in the status were genuine or not genuine. Previous Conservation Status was not assessed for Steppic, Black Sea and Marine Black Sea regions. For these regions the Previous status is therefore considered as 'unknown'. The percentage of the species population occurring within the biogeographical/marine region (% in region) is calculated based on the area of GIS distribution.

<sup>ii</sup>Percentage of coverage by Natura 2000 sites in biogeographical/marine region: In some cases the population size within the Natura 2000 network has been estimated using a different methodology to the estimate of overall population size and this can lead to percentage covers greater than 100%. In such case the value has been given as 100% and highlighted with an asterisk (\*). The value 'x' indicates that the Member State has not reported the species population and/or the coverage by Natura 2000. No information is available for Greece. The values are only provided for regions, in which the occurrence of the species has been reported by the Member States.